Price stability of agricultural commodities under

plantation and spices sector

4505. SHRI N.K. PREMA CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government consider to implement any schemes to ensure the stability of prices of agricultural commodities under plantation and spices sector in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission have recommended to discontinue the financial assistance to rubber cultivations in Kerala;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government have taken any decision on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) For the benefit of the growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco Government has approved setting up of a Price Stabilization Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore, which covers Kerala State also.

(c) to (e) The Rubber Plantation Development Scheme is yet to be considered for implementation during the Tenth Five-Year Plan.

PSFfor plantation crops growers

4506. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved setting up of Price Stabilization Fund for plantation crops in order to safeguard the interests of the growers;

(b) if so, the details of the Fund;

(c) the total corpus of the Fund; and

(d) the number of growers who are going to be covered under the scheme in Andhra Pradesh? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has approved the setting up of a Price Stabilization Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore for the benefit of the growers of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco